

Message Text

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TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

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LIMDIS- TOSEC 246 ZFF ISLAMABAD ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL CH, PK

SUBJECT: ESCORT FOR ARCHEOLOGICAL DELEGATION

REF: PEKING 1335

ISLAMABAD FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR QUICK REPLY ON MATTER OF ESCORT
FOR ARCHEOLOGY GROUP. WE UNDERSTAND PROBABLE RATIONALE
FOR DESIGNATING HOLDRIDGE IS, IN PART, THAT FORTHCOMING
NEGOTIATIONS ON ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION MAY BE CONDUCTED
BY HIM. DEPT AND NSC ARE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT PRO-
VIDING ESCORT OF HOLDRIDGE'S RANK AND PROMINENCE MAY
COMPLICATE USG EFFORTS TO DEVELOP GROUND-RULES PERMITTING
LONG-TERM, REASONABLY SMOOTH COOPERATION WITH US ACADEMIC
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COMMUNITY ON PRIVATE, THOUGH OFFICIALLY FACILITATED,

SCHOLARLY EXCHANGES WITH THE PRC.

2. THESE EFFORTS ARE AT A DELICATE STAGE JUST NOW ON THE ISSUE OF USG ESCORTS. AS YOU KNOW, COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION (CSC) DID NOT WANT USG ESCORT FOR THE ARCHEOLOGICAL DELEGATION. HAVING FINALLY AGREED TO ACCEPT A USLO ESCORT, CSC CLEARLY CONSIDERED IT HAD MADE A MAJOR CONCESSION.

3. GIVEN CHINESE PUNCTILIOUSNESS ON PROTOCOL (E.G. EXCEPTIONAL TREATMENT OF JENKINS DURING THE MAGNUSON

VISIT), AND THE CSC'S--AND THIS DELEGATION'S STRONG DESIRE TO DEMONSTRATE SCHOLARLY INDEPENDENCE FROM USG, WE BELIEVE ESCORT OFFICER ABOVE THE LEVEL OF DIVISION CHIEF WOULD HAVE A HIGHER PROFILE THAN IS DESIRABLE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. HUMMEL AND SOLOMON CAN PROVIDE FURTHER BACKGROUND THIS WEEKEND. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON NAMING MORE JUNIOR ESCORT OFFICER FOR THIS DELEGATION, PRESUMABLY WHOEVER WILL BE ASSISTING SENIOR LEVEL ON ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION TALKS. RUSH

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